



## Parliamentarians for Global Action

*New York / 16 March 2009* - PGA applauds the decision of the Government of Pakistan to reinstate former Chief Justice Ifitkhar Muhammad Chaudhry and other judges deposed by the former President Musharraf on November 3, 2007. On behalf of the organization, PGA President, Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw said, "This action by the Government of Pakistan is very positive and should create an environment in which all the political leaders of Pakistan can sink their differences and come together to work for the good of the people of Pakistan"

Welcoming the decision, Chair of the PGA Pakistan National Group, Hon. Naveed Qamar, MP, called it an important step for "strengthening the judiciary, enhancing the power of parliament and stabilizing the political system in the country."

From across the aisle, opposition member Dr. Donya Aziz, MP, lauded the step as a "peaceful political resolution of a protracted issue. It was important for an elected government to respond in accordance with the people's wishes."

On behalf of the lawyers movement, former PGA member, Ch. Aitzaz Ahsan, heralded the result of a "secular, liberal, non-violent, pluralistic, popular movement, sustained through two years...Today, with the return of a truly independent judiciary that parliamentary system is strengthened and its own future secured."

At time of continued regional volatility and security challenges, PGA fervently hopes that this important restorative step will also restore a greater measure of calm and stability in the country as a whole and calls on all its members in Pakistan to work with each other across party lines towards that goal.